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General Assembly
Fiftieth

First Committee

1st Meeting
Tuesday, 19 September 1995, 3 p.m.
New York

Official Records

Temporary Chairman: Mr. Freitas do Amaral . . . . . (Portugal, President of the General Assembly)

The meeting was called to order at 5.10 p.m.

Election of the Chairman of the First Committee

The Temporary Chairman: Rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that each Main Committee shall elect a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. These officers shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence. The elections shall be held by secret ballot unless the Committee decides otherwise in an election where only one candidate is standing. The nomination of each candidate shall be limited to one speaker, after which the Committee shall immediately proceed to the election.

Furthermore, rule 110 of the rules of procedure provides that congratulations to the officers of a Main Committee shall not be expressed except by the Chairman of the previous session — or, in his absence, by a member of his delegation — after all the officers of the Committee have been elected.

This meeting has been convened for the election of the Chairman of the First Committee.

Are there any nominations?

Mr. Valencia (Ecuador) (*interpretation from Spanish*): In reaffirmation of the warm words of congratulations extended to you, Sir, by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, my delegation also hopes to have an opportunity to congratulate you in an equally warm way upon your election to the presidency of the General Assembly.

On behalf of the delegation of Ecuador, it is my pleasure to present the candidacy of the Permanent Representative of Mongolia, Ambassador Luvsangiin Erdenechuluun, for the chairmanship of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee). I am confident that he will be elected by acclamation.

Ambassador Erdenechuluun is an experienced diplomat with extensive and thorough experience in the United Nations. Since 1980, he has participated in its work as Second and First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Mongolia; since 1990 as Deputy Permanent Representative; and since May 1992 as Permanent Representative. From 1970 to 1994 inclusive, he participated in no fewer than 22 sessions of the General Assembly. He has been Rapporteur of the First Committee, a member of his country's delegation at sessions of the Conference on Disarmament from 1976 to 1982, and Chairman of the Disarmament Commission at its most recent session in 1995.

In his country, Ambassador Erdenechuluun has also been involved in United Nations activities through the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which he headed from 1988 to 1990. Moreover, he has participated in a number of sessions of the Non-Aligned Movement and in 1995 served also as Chairman of the group of landlocked developing States.

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This record contains the original texts of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, Room C-178. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

I am therefore convinced that, thanks to this invaluable experience and to his fine skills as an able and steadfast negotiator, together with his thorough professional training acquired in the Institute of International Relations and at the Diplomatic Academy of Moscow, Ambassador Erdenechuluun will carry out the functions of Chairman of the First Committee with the dynamism and competence that will ensure the success of the delicate deliberations that we are all soon to undertake in accordance with the agenda of that Committee.

The Temporary Chairman: His Excellency Mr. Luvsangiin Erdenechuluun of Mongolia has been nominated by the representative of Ecuador. Since only one candidate has been nominated, I propose that under rule 103 the Committee decide not to hold a secret ballot.

It was so decided.

The Temporary Chairman: I therefore declare His Excellency Mr. Luvsangiin Erdenechuluun of Mongolia elected Chairman of the First Committee by acclamation.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.